

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives wholeheartedly believe that a successful marriage forms a firm foundation for a lifetime of happiness and security and wish to salute an outstanding Missouri couple whose union confirms that philosophy; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Downing, treasured residents of Elsberry, Missouri, commemorated the splendid occasion of their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary on July 20, 2003, with a festive celebration and dinner hosted by their family at a hotel in Sedalia; and

Whereas, joined in marriage on August 14, 1943, L.B. Downing and Doris Hobbs began their lives together as husband and wife after a memorable wedding ceremony in St. Charles, Missouri; and

Whereas, a proud father, caring husband, and talented musician who plays a variety of instruments and has a beautiful singing voice, Mr. Downing provided a safe and secure future for his loved ones through many years of tireless endeavor as a farmer, while somehow finding the time and energy for affiliation with the Auburn Presbyterian Church, where he serves as an Elder; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Mrs. Downing enjoyed her family immensely and distinguished herself as a cook with the Elsberry R-II School District for fourteen years; and

Whereas, a remarkable couple that has provided a worship service for two nursing homes in Silex for many years, L.B. and Doris Downing attribute their sixty years of wedded success and happiness to their strong sense of faith and family, the foundation upon which they have planted the seeds of their love and respect for each other in the generations to follow which include their nine children, Virginia Warchol, Rebecca Ledgerwood, Rita Shero, Nancy Fansher, Judy Collins, Jean Gomez, Brent Downing, David Downing, and Daniel Downing; and their eight grandchildren; and

Whereas, with the words of the Lord to guide their way, L.B. and Doris Downing have remained devoted life partners and have put forth a tremendous amount of effort to ensure the sanctity of the vows they took so very long ago:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in a thunderous round of applause for L.B. and Doris Downing upon the glorious celebration of their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary, and in wishing them tremendous peace, prosperity, and contentment as they proudly begin their seventh decade of wedded success and happiness; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Downing, as a measure of our esteem for them.

Offered by _____

Representative Terry L. Witte

District No. 10

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4854, adopted December 17, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker